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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/674,870	12/18/2000	Gurbinder Singh Kalsi	60,130-925	7086

26096 7590 12/30/2003

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EXAMINER

WALSH, JOHN B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3676

DATE MAILED: 12/30/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/674,870

Applicant(s)

GURBINDER SINGH KALSI

Examiner

John B. Walsh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-15,17-21,29-34 and 39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 8,9,15,17 and 39 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-7,10-14,18-21 and 29-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6,7,10-13,21,30 and 31 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 7, 10-14, 18-21 and 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 and 5 recite "the link". It is unclear if the applicant is referring to the inside lock link or the outside lock link.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-3, 5, 14, 18, 19, 29 and 32-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,653,484 to Brackmann et al.

Brackmann et al. '484 disclose a housing (figure 1); a pawl (2); at least one of an inside and outside lock link (5); a release member (24); a first position wherein operation of an associated release member causes movement of the pawl to release the latch (actuation of handle 24 moves 5 to move 3 releasing the pawl 2) and a second position at which operation of the release member does not cause movement of the pawl (column 3, lines 49-50; actuation of the

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handle 24 does not cause movement of the pawl 2 since the connection is broken when movement of 5 does not cause movement of the next link in the chain of movement); the at least one lock link is mounted such that movement of the pawl is necessarily accompanied by movement of the at least one lock link (when the pawl is moved the lock link was moved earlier in the chain of movements, when in the second position the pawl will not be moved), the at least one lock link is pivotally mounted for rotational movement between the first and second positions (figure 1).

As concerns claim 2, the pawl is rotatably mounted (figure 1).

As concerns claim 3, a pawl lifter (10), the at least one lock link is mounted on the pawl lifter (figure 1, in contact with each other).

As concerns claim 5, both an inside and outside lock link (4 and 5) mounted for movement with the pawl (when 4 or 5 move, pawl 2 will also move).

As concerns claim 14, a power actuator (connection between 24 and 5 acts as a power actuator by transferring power from 24 to 5 and powering actuation of 5).

As concerns claim 18, a lock mode (locked) and a release mode (unlocked); a single power actuator (21).

As concerns claim 19, a lock mode (locked), a super lock mode (both inside and outside locked, actuators will not release).

As concerns claims 29, 33 and 34, the at least one lock link is mounted for rotation about a common first axis with the pawl (an axis of the housing coming out of the page, wherein if the housing were rotated about this axis the at least one lock link and pawl would both rotated about

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this axis). Furthermore, applicant's drawings do not clearly show the axis of the pawl for which it is connected to the housing.

As concerns claim 32, both an inside and outside lock link (4 and 5) mounted for movement with the pawl (when 4 or 5 move, pawl 2 will also move). It is unclear if applicant is intending to recite that the pawl moves upon simultaneous rotation of both the outside and inside lock link. The claim has not been rejected upon that interpretation.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 6, 7, 10-13, 21, 30, 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Claims 8, 9, 15, 17 and 39 are allowed.

7. The indicated allowability of claims 1-3, 5, 14, 18, 19, 29 and 32-34 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to U.S. Patent No. 5,653,484 to Brackmann et al. A rejection based on the newly cited reference is found above.

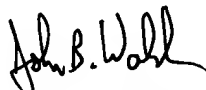
Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John B. Walsh whose telephone number is 703-305-0444. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30-6:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Knight can be reached on 703-308-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9326.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-872-9325.



John B. Walsh
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3670